

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/IB2004/003606

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G01N33/68 C07K14/475 G01N33/543

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G01N C07K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, BIOSIS, EMBASE

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|---|-----------------------|
| X | WO 02/17964 A (NAYERI, FARIBA) 7 March 2002 (2002-03-07) cited in the application abstract claims 1-36 examples 1-10 page 5, line 1 - line 4 page 10, line 13 - page 12, line 4 | 1-13, 21, 22 |
| A | NAYERI FARIBA ET AL: "Sample handling and stability of hepatocyte growth factor in blood samples" CYTOKINE, vol. 19, no. 4, 21 August 2002 (2002-08-21), pages 201-205, XP002322213 ISSN: 1043-4666 abstract ----- -/-- | |

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *8* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

29 March 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

13/04/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|--|-----------------------|
| A | WO 01/44294 A (ENTREMED, INC; LIANG, HONG; SIM, KIM, LEE; DEY, CLARA) 21 June 2001 (2001-06-21) abstract | |
| A | MATSUNO MITSUTAKA ET AL: "Clinical evaluation of hepatocyte growth factor in patients with gastrointestinal and pancreatic diseases with special reference to inflammatory bowel disease" RESEARCH COMMUNICATIONS IN MOLECULAR PATHOLOGY AND PHARMACOLOGY, vol. 97, no. 1, 1997, pages 25-27, XP008044746 ISSN: 1078-0297 abstract | |
| A | SHIMADA YOSHIHISA ET AL: "Hepatocyte growth factor production may be related to the inflammatory response in patients with acute myocardial infarction" CIRCULATION JOURNAL, vol. 66, no. 3, March 2002 (2002-03), pages 253-256, XP002322219 ISSN: 1346-9843 abstract | |
| A | BORAWSKI JACEK ET AL: "Serum hepatocyte growth factor is associated with viral hepatitis, cardiovascular disease, erythropoietin treatment, and type of heparin in haemodialysis patients" NEPHROLOGY DIALYSIS TRANSPLANTATION, vol. 17, no. 4, April 2002 (2002-04), pages 637-644, XP002322220 ISSN: 0931-0509 abstract | |
| A | NAYERI F ET AL: "High serum hepatocyte growth factor levels in the acute stage of community-acquired infectious diseases" SCANDINAVIAN JOURNAL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES, vol. 34, no. 2, 2002, pages 127-130, XP008044743 ISSN: 0036-5548 abstract | |

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|---|-----------------------|
| A | SRIVASTAVA MAYA ET AL: "Elevated serum hepatocyte growth factor in children and young adults with inflammatory bowel disease" JPGN JOURNAL OF PEDIATRIC GASTROENTEROLOGY AND NUTRITION, vol. 33, no. 5, November 2001 (2001-11), pages 548-553, XP008044741 ISSN: 0277-2116 abstract | |
| A | ----- HUANG MING-SHYAN ET AL: "Serum hepatocyte growth factor levels in patients with inflammatory lung diseases" KAOHSIUNG JOURNAL OF MEDICAL SCIENCES, vol. 15, no. 4, April 1999 (1999-04), pages 195-201, XP008044745 ISSN: 0257-5655 abstract | |
| A | ----- KUNO YUJI ET AL: "Possible involvement of neutrophil elastase in impaired mucosal repair in patients with ulcerative colitis." JOURNAL OF GASTROENTEROLOGY, vol. 37, no. Supplement 14, 2002, pages 22-32, XP008044736 ISSN: 0944-1174 abstract | |

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☒ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

Although claim 22 is directed to a method of treatment of the human body, the search has been carried out and based on those parts of the claims referring to in vitro methods only.
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

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| Patent document cited in search report | | Publication date | | Patent family member(s) | Publication date |
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| WO 0217964 | A | 07-03-2002 | AU | 8457601 A | 13-03-2002 |
| | | | EP | 1320384 A1 | 25-06-2003 |
| | | | SE | 0003038 A | 01-03-2002 |
| | | | WO | 0217964 A1 | 07-03-2002 |
| | | | US | 2004042968 A1 | 04-03-2004 |
| WO 0144294 | A | 21-06-2001 | AU | 3074801 A | 25-06-2001 |
| | | | CA | 2394167 A1 | 21-06-2001 |
| | | | EP | 1242451 A2 | 25-09-2002 |
| | | | JP | 2003517007 T | 20-05-2003 |
| | | | WO | 0144294 A2 | 21-06-2001 |